

### **Dates to Remember, November 6, 2024 Board Meeting**

- November 8, 11 am, Lunch at Brody
- November 12, 1:30 pm, Tuesday, memb'p mtng, International Travel with Kurt Richter
- November 14 / 15, receive a family's gift wish lists from Safe Place
- December 4, 10 am, Wednesday, **next board meeting**
- December 8, 2 pm, Williamston Theater and Dinner at Zynda's (deadline is 11-22-2024)
- December 9, 1:30 pm, Monday, memb'p mtng,
- December 11, Gift wrap party for gifts for Safe Place family
- December 12, Straightline Zoom Meeting
- December 13, 11 am, Lunch at Brody
- December 15 / 16, Safe Place gift pick-up

### **MSURA Board Meeting Minutes: November 6, 2024, 10 am**

In attendance: Dave Brower, Chris DeFouw, Cheryl Pell, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Dan Mackey, Rick Vogt, Bill Anderson, Angie Brown, John Forsyth, Jacqie Babcock, Kate Wight, Mike Gardner

**Called to Order:** 10:01 am

#### **Item(s) Requiring Discussion and a Vote**

- Renewal of DO Insurance was approved. J. Babcock moved to renew; B. Smith seconded.
- MSU Safe Place Planning: A. Brown moved to adopt a family, hold a gift wrap party, and to use up to \$150 for party essentials; R. Vogt seconded. Motion carried.

#### **Review/Approve Minutes of October 9, 2024 Annual Meeting**

Motion to approve minutes made by B. Anderson and seconded by R. Vogt; minutes were approved.

#### **President's Report (Dave Brower)**

- Four delegates – D. Brower; A. Brown; J. Babcock; and R. Vogt – will represent MSURA at the mid-year Big 10 meeting (via Zoom). If any of these four are not available then B. Anderson or B. Smith will represent, assuming availability. D. Brower and A. Brown will be voting participants. The specific date in January has not been set. D. Brower suggests that all delegates be in the same location for this virtual meeting.
- Two delegates, to be determined after officers for 2025-2026 have been identified, will represent MSURA at the annual meeting. The annual meeting will be in Ann Arbor, U of M, and is scheduled for August 5 – 7, 2025.
- Efforts towards providing more support for MSURA board work continue. D. Brower will refine further with assistance of a committee.

### **Vice-President's Report (Angie Brown)**

- Volunteers (N. Kher, J. Babcock, L. Thomas, and A. Brown) are set for the November membership meeting.
- A. Brown thanked C. DeFouw for all she has done to get new volunteers involved in our activities.
- The BYOB program has been successful and will continue.

### **Treasurer's Report (Bill Humphrey)**

Through October, 2024, revenues totaled \$8,408.41; expenditures totaled \$12,117.02, resulting in a deficit of \$3,708.61. Total assets are \$32,590.20. The MSURA Endowment's balance held steady at \$206,789.16. The income account's balance held steady at \$11,399.23

K. Wight moved to approve the October report; A. Brown seconded. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Our DO Insurance is up for renewal. J. Babcock moved to approve renewal of DO Insurance; B. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

### **MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey, Rick Vogt [Health Care Committee\*\*])**

- Open enrollment during October was successful. D. Mackey expressed thanks to those who helped at the Benefits Fair.
- During our November membership meeting, when presenter Kurt Richter will be answering questions submitted by the Travel Special Interest Group, attendees will be directed to call Humana about concerns re: the coverage offered by Humana when traveling internationally. Further, they will call Human Resources only if they are not able to get a reasonable response from Humana. Purchase of supplemental insurance may be strongly advised in some instances.

### **Homecoming Parade Wrap-up (Bill Anderson)**

- B. Anderson submitted \$50, received from the sale of the Hawkeye that was part of the float.
- We received a \$100 gift card for Follett's Book Store.
- A. Brown will pass on to C. DeFouw a list of parade volunteers, who may be interested in becoming more involved in MSURA planning and activities.

### **Annual Meeting, May 6, 2025, MSU University Club (Pam Marcus, Liz Thomas)**

The MSU University Club is holding both May 6 and May 7 pending response about availability from MSU President Guskiewicz. After the date is definite, Interest Groups will be invited to share information during the social time, prior to dining.

**Scholarship Committee (Angie Brown)** Nothing to report

## **Volunteer of the Year Award, Nominations (Bill Anderson)**

Looking ahead to completing the nominations slate, B. Anderson will ask Officers and At-Large members whose terms expire in 2025 about their interest and availability to continue to serve in their current positions.

## **Membership (Jacqie Babcock) / Volunteers\*\* and Interest Groups\*\* (Chris DeFouw)**

- With the thought of ultimately bringing in more volunteers to board positions, those who appear to be most interested will be invited to future board meetings. We must find a way to increase the pool of those willing to take on leadership roles by welcoming, mentoring, supporting, and encouraging more participation at the board level. We will continue to identify and reach out to additional individuals.
  
- A. Brown will call together a committee to further discuss offering t-shirts, polo shirts, or something similar, to MSURA members. In addition to A. Brown, likely committee members will be: B. Humphrey; J. Babcock; M. Gardner; C. Pell; R. Vogt. Committee will pursue:
  - T-shirt, golf shirt, or sweatshirt? Or a combination of these?
  - Design: How elaborate? Include a slogan?
  - Cost: Sell at cost or increase the cost, with the difference going to fund a scholarship?
  - Time-frame: Have shirts available for sale at annual meeting or before?
  
- J. Babcock obtained an initial price estimate on shirts from RetroDuck. The price per shirt varies depending on quantity ordered. The maximum cost would be:
  - \$18 for a short-sleeved polo shirt
  - \$25 for a long-sleeved polo shirt
  - \$10 for a short-sleeved t-shirt
  - \$13 for a long-sleeved t-shirt
  - Any shirt that is size 2X and larger would be an additional \$2.

## **Events Committee\*\* (Chris DeFouw)**

- The definite date for our event at the MSU Planetarium is now set at July 11, 2025.
- Other events are being planned and will be added to the Events list when more details are known. This includes events on campus as well as events that would require transport by bus.
  
- MSU SAFE Place Planning: Following discussion it was decided that we will again sponsor a Safe Place family. We will receive the wish lists approximately on November 15, collect the gifts, wrap them and have them ready for pick-up by December 15. We will host a gift wrap party on December 11<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday; D. Mackey will look into procuring a large room in the basement for the gift wrap party.
- A. Brown moved to adopt a family, hold a gift wrap party, and to use up to \$150 for party essentials; R. Vogt seconded. Motion carried.

**Retiree Lunch on Campus (Mike Gardner)**

Lunch at Brody will take place on Friday, November 8, 2024.

**Communications\*\*/Underwriters (Cheryl Pell, Rick Vogt, Jacqie Babcock)**

- Our two-page pamphlet that highlights MSURA activities will be included in the next two newsletters. Additionally, R. Vogt plans to add two pages, one of which will focus on volunteers.
- Underwriting revenues from Advancement, Humana, and Health Team are still pending.

**Office Management (Liz Thomas)** Nothing to report

**MSURA Technology, website, Facebook (John Forsyth, Cheryl Pell, Bruce Smith, Rick Vogt)**

Redesigning the website platform is tabled at least until next year.

**Other Items / Announcements** Nothing to report

**Next Meeting: December 4 2024, 10:00 a.m.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

\*\* See additional information in attachment.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight  
MSURA Secretary

November 11, 2024

### > **Volunteer Report**

> Members assisting with the Homecoming Float included Bill Anderson, Emily Anderson, Jacqie Babcock, Phil Babcock, Dave Brower, Angela Brown, Craig Gunn, Neelam Kher, Doug Koons, Pam Marcis, Kriss Ostrom Cindy Roach Vernice Smith, Brenda Vogt, Rick Vogt and Darlene Wenner. Non-Members included Nancy Haney, Anushil Jha and Piper Lindsey.

> Jacqie Babcock, Eric Crawford and Neelam Kher will be assisting at the November 12 Membership Meeting.

### > **Special Interest Groups Report**

> Awaiting decision on date of the Annual Luncheon. Once date is set, will start contacting the Special Interest Group leaders so they can prepare.

### > **Special Events Report (Jacqie Babcock, Pam Marcis, Ralph Pyle, Chris DeFouw)**

> Upcoming Scheduled:

> December 8, 2024 Williamston Theatre & Dinner @ Zynda's, Jacqie Babcock

> December 2024 Safe Place Gift Collection, Bill Anderson

> January 23, 2025 Wharton Center Tour, Dave Brower

> April 16, 2025 Saving Lives by Learning CPR & AED Skills, Bill Anderson

> July 11, 2025 MSU Planterium, Chris DeFouw - can do Pink Floyd "Dark Side of Moon" and short Startalk afterwards; or can choose another program with a slightly longer Startalk afterwards. Cost is \$3.00 per person pay upon arrival, \$60.00 minimum. Theater holds up to 140 people. Friday programs start at 1:30 p.m., people to arrive 15 minutes early.

> To be Scheduled:

> March 2025 MSU Football Building Tour, Chris DeFouw

> May/June 2025 Bus trip to Detroit, Jacqie Babcock & Pam Marcis

> August 2025 Lugnuts Game, Dave Brower

> Completed:

> July 10, 2024 Lunch at Newman Lofts

> August 16, 2024 Lugnuts Game, Pam Marcis

> September 10, 2024 Michigan Capitol Tour, Pam Marcis

> October 18, 2024 Homecoming Parade, Bill Anderson

**November's Membership Meeting** - TUESDAY November 12th. Kurt Richter, Interim Director of Global Health, Safety, and Security will present on International Travel. Kurt is all set for Tuesday's meeting. Angie, I will get the donuts. We are planning on broadcasting and recording the presentation.

### **Health Care Committee Report**

Met with Mary Lou Morey Benefits Director for MSU Human Resources.

- GPL-1 diabetes and diet prescription medications will continue to be covered in 2025. The Weight Loss coverage will continue also.
- MSU has a 3 year contract with Humana and Personify Health for health care insurance for MSU retirees over 65 years of age and under. They do have the option to cancel early.
- MSU Human Resources has invited MSURA representatives to participate in an RFP (Request for Proposal) process which is beginning. We expect to meet with HR early in February or March to give input into the RFP.
- Past RFPs for Health Care Insurance is a long process which takes usually a year to select a winner and another year to prepare files and systems to handle a different insurance company. So, while we have a 3 year contract with Humana, conducting the RFP now is getting a head start.
- MSU Health Care costs increased by over 50% with the new contract. It is important to do what we can to keep health care costs down while keeping coverage.
- One option HR is exploring is looking at using a "Market Place" solution where retirees choose their provider. Retirees who live outside Michigan have run into issues where local medical service providers do not accept Humana Medicare Advantage insurance. They have no option but to go with Medicare alone. MSU does not pay any of these premiums. The Market Place option would allow these retirees to select insurance provider which is accepted by their local medical service providers. Details on the "Market Place" are still being researched.
- The "Market Place" while beneficial to some retirees, I think majority of retirees would preferred to have an insurance plan that has been vetted by HR and which has our current coverage. Medical insurance is complicated and hard to evaluate. As I understand it, our current insurance coverage is defined in two 12" binders. That is a lot to go through and judge which is a better plan.
- Also, the number of insurance options in the "Market Place" does not include all. Only a select number will be available. Not sure at this time what the criteria is for which are options and which are not. Preliminary research showed the insurance plans offered were "Gold" status. Our current plan is "Platinum Plus", which is the highest rating.

## Communication Committee

- The next E-Notice will go out this weekend. If you have an announcement for it, please get that to me by Friday 5pm. Thank you.
- The next Newsletter is January's. We have already begun working on it. Content deadline for it is Friday, December 6th.
- We included the brochure information for MSURA in the November-December newsletter. I would like to include it again in the January newsletter. Also, I would like to have an article which helps recruit volunteers and one which promotes membership involvement in MSURA activities and special interest groups. Jacqie and Chris, let's talk about this in the next few days.
- The size of the E-Notice eMail has been reduced. We continue to look for ways to shrink it. Mostly by using links and putting details on the MSURA website. Part of this is when we announce events. I have found that announcing event details two months before an event is good. Events that we need to register and pay a fee, like a bus tour is an exception to this of course.
- Redesign of MSURA website. We are still on hold for now.